

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and continued examination of the above-identified application. Claims 1 and 7-9 are allowed. Claims 1-3 and 6-23 remain pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 6 and 23, and cancel claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 3, and 10-22 have been withdrawn from consideration. Support for the amended claims can be found in the present application, for example, at least in paragraphs [0042] and [0058] of the as-filed application and in the original claims as filed. Accordingly, no questions of new matter should arise and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication by the Examiner that claims 1 and 7-9 are allowed.

Rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The applicants believe that claims 5 and 6 are definite to one skilled in the art. To expedite prosecution and without agreeing to the correctness of the rejection, claim 6 has been amended to further clarify the features of the claimed polynucleotide and nucleotide sequences complementary thereto. Claim 6, as amended, is directed to an isolated polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the isolated polynucleotide encodes a protein that accelerates activation of Cdc42. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 6 also satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112,

second paragraph.

Claim 5 has been canceled, thus rendering moot this rejection.

Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

At pages 3-6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 5 has been canceled, thus rendering moot this rejection.

Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Objection to claim 23

At page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to claim 23 based on informalities. The Examiner suggests replacing the semi-colons in claim 23 with commas.

Claim 23 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

CONCLUSION

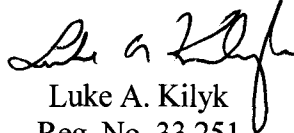
In view of the foregoing remarks, the applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0925. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and should also be charged to said

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Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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